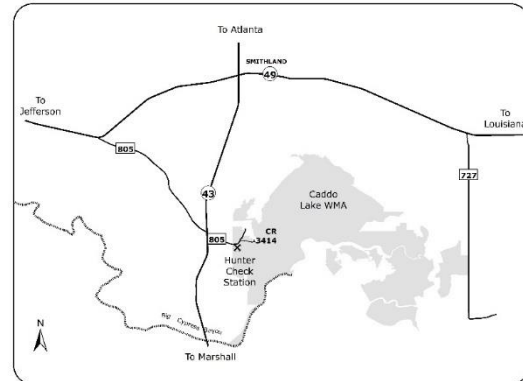




Caddo Lake WMA Spring Turkey Hunts

BACKGROUND

The Caddo Lake WMA is located in Marion and Harrison counties approximately 20 miles northeast of Marshall and 15 miles east of Jefferson. The WMA consists of 8,128 acres of a permanently flooded bald cypress swamp, seasonally flooded bottomland hardwoods and upland mixed pine hardwood forests. The climate within the WMA is relatively mild with hot and humid summers and mild winters. Mean annual precipitation is 67 inches, with periods of heaviest precipitation occurring in April and May. Water levels usually range from 165 - 172 feet.



We suggest you check local water levels and projected weather forecasts for your hunt period prior to arrival and come prepared. All hunters are encouraged to bring a GPS unit or a compass. A primitive campsite is available at the end of County Road 3414 on the Caddo Lake WMA; offers no water, electricity or toilet facilities. Other lodging can be found at Caddo Lake State Park (903-679-3351) and in Marshall and Jefferson.

HUNTING INFORMATION

Rules and Regulations:

1. All hunters must have a valid Texas Hunting License, an Upland Game Bird Stamp Endorsement (not required of hunters under 17 years of age or holders of Lifetime Resident Combination or Lifetime Resident Hunting licenses), and their drawn permit or stand-by permit on their person at all times. Harvested turkeys must be immediately brought to the check station as soon as they are field dressed. Only Eastern Wild Turkey may be legally harvested. **It is prohibited to harvest a gobbler from the roost.**
2. The check station will open at 10:00 AM on the first day of the hunt. Drawn hunters must report to the check station by 11:00 AM for orientation. **Hunters must contact the area as soon as possible if they are unable to attend their accepted hunt or not able to arrive on the first day for orientation.** Hunters not attending the first day orientation must check in and attend an orientation prior going to the field.
3. Hunts begin at noon on the first day and conclude at noon on the final day. Legal shooting hours begin ½ hour before official sunrise and end ½ hour after official sunset. See WMA personnel for official sunrise and sunset.
4. A permitted supervising adult is required to accompany all hunters under the age of 17 at all times.

5. Only permitted hunters will be allowed in the hunt area. Visitors are not allowed to accompany hunters into the field. There will be no substitutions allowed within drawn hunt positions.
6. All harvested turkey must be checked at the WMA check station. Hunters must notify WMA staff upon leaving daily and must sign out at the conclusion of the hunt weekend.
7. Alcohol is strictly prohibited on the WMA.
8. The campground and check station is to be kept clean of trash at all times...**Pack it in, Pack it out.**
9. Hunter Education is required of all hunters born on or after September 2, 1971 (see Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual for more information).
10. Vehicles are required to remain on only those roads marked on the map. Roads not marked on the map are restricted from vehicular traffic. This will be strictly enforced.
11. Legally defined archery equipment and shotguns are permitted. Shotguns must be 20 gauge or greater and have a choke no less than modified. Shot size is limited to number 4, 5, and 6 shot.
12. Transporting youth in an open pickup bed or trailer is prohibited.
13. **Baiting is prohibited.**
14. Use of an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) or an off road vehicle (ORV) is prohibited.
15. Hunting from a vehicle or possession of a loaded firearm (one with a round in the chamber or magazine) in or on a vehicle is prohibited.
16. Removal of artifacts, plants, or animals (other than legally harvested game) from the WMA is prohibited. All should be left where they are.
17. Eastern Wild Turkey gobbler is the only legal species to be harvested. No other species can be killed or taken.
18. Hunters and/or vehicles are subject to inspection by game wardens or WMA personnel.
19. Hunters will be assigned hunting compartments.

For further information, call the Caddo Lake WMA headquarters at (903) 679-9817.

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